

The new \$50 design retains three of the most important security features that were first introduced in the 1990s and are easy for consumers and merchants alike to check: watermark, security thread, and color-shifting ink.



Security Thread

Hold the bill up to the light and look for the security thread, or plastic strip, that is embedded in the paper and runs vertically to the right of the portrait. If you look closely, the words “USA 50” and a small flag are visible along the thread from both sides of the note. This thread glows yellow when held under an ultraviolet light.

Color-Shifting Ink

Look at the number “50” in the lower right corner on the face of the note. When you tilt the note up and down the color-shifting ink changes color from copper to green.

Watermark

Hold the bill up to the light and look for the watermark, or faint image, similar to the large portrait of President Ulysses S. Grant. The watermark is part of the paper itself and it can be seen from both sides of the note.

The New Color of Money: Safer. Smarter. More Secure.

Newly designed currency — with the addition of subtle background colors — began with the \$20 note in 2003 and will continue with the \$50 note in late 2004. A new design for the \$100 note will follow later. The introduction of new currency designs is part of an ongoing effort by the United States Government to stay ahead of currency counterfeiting and to protect the economy and your hard-earned money.